

## **Gloucestershire Echo, 'Where I Live '**

### **SHURDINGTON Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

- I mentioned last week the unpleasant smell of drains which emanated from the corner of Church Lane and Bishop Road. After intensive investigation by the Environment Authority, and the application of coloured dyes in the Social centre drains it was discovered that it had nothing to do with the Halls but was the main sewer leaking and therefore the responsibility of Severn Trent; repairs were carried out but STW may return shortly to carry out a CCTV survey of the sewer in the locality.
- Last Monday was busy as usual at 15<sup>th</sup> Cheltenham Scout Group. Cubs went horse riding at Ullenwood, Explorers went Go-Karting in Gloucester, whilst Beavers were instructed in the art of Fencing by Liz Williams of Buccaneer Blades. I can say it's the first time we have had this sort of experience and fun here in Shurdington and the Beavers thoroughly enjoyed it. They learnt not only to fence but also how to salute their opponent and warn them to be 'on guard'. Excellent experience. There should be some photos of the event on our website.
- Tomorrow Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> the Junior Covenanters will be having their end of scholastic year party in the millennium Hall in the afternoon. Members may attend and prospective members could book themselves in for next September's launch.
- Mothers Union will be having a meeting in the Century Hall next Tuesday afternoon.
- Several of our Scouts will be departing for Bla Sommer Danish Jamboree next Tuesday at about 3am. They will be staying in the Social Centre from late evening on Monday ready for the long coach trip.
- Something else that took place at the Millennium Hall on Monday was one of the saddest we have had for many a year. For some 3 years now we have had the pleasure of the company of Rick Moran as Assistant Scout Leader with us and also his son Thomas as a Scout. The Morans hail from the United States and have been here on work exchange. Sadly it is Rick's time to return to the USA at the end of this month with his family, including young Gemma who just loved to come to Scouts with her older brother. We had an American Evening last Monday to celebrate their time with us and the end Rick and Tom were presented with a Hoodie each with badges and prints of the camps they attended here. Rick was also presented with a Scouting badge book by ADC Scouts Christine Langham. On behalf of all at the 15<sup>th</sup>, may I wish them a safe journey home on their return from Denmark Jamboree, and a huge thank you to Rick for his help and contribution, his son Thomas and daughter Gemma and also his wife Denise for her constant support of our activities here in Shurdington. You will all be missed and perhaps we may meet again in the USA at some stage.
- Anyone who has ventured into the Millennium Garden recently will have noticed the beautiful garden which Preschool tutors and the children have created. There are some new photos on the website which make up for the lack of a view from outside now they have a protective fence around the garden.
- We are now nearing the end of the summer school term and many of the organisations dealing with children will be having a break until beginning of September. Keep an eye on our website in case there are any extra-curricular activities for children going on.